

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

of

Kimmo Hämynen,
Johannes Lehto,
Jim Lundin,
Yi-Hong Zhu,
Anna Karri, and
Kevin McCarthy

for a

SYSTEM AND PROTOCOL FOR PROVIDING PICTURES
IN WIRELESS COMMUNICATION MESSAGES

0972148-100101
"84T2660"

SYSTEM AND PROTOCOL FOR PROVIDING PICTURES
IN WIRELESS COMMUNICATION MESSAGES

RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 The present invention is related to the following U.S.
applications:

Ser. No. 09/864,855, entitled *System and Protocol for
Extending Funtionalty of Wireless Communication Messaging*,
filed May 23, 2001.

10 Ser. No. 09/864,897, entitled *System for Personal Messaging*,
filed May 23, 2001.

The present invention is also related to the following
international application:

15 International application no. PCT/EP00/02370, entitled
Communication Terminal Handling Messages Including Graphics,
filed March 16, 2000, which claims priority to GB application
no. 9906316.6, filed March 18, 1999.

The related applications are assigned to the present
assignee. The subject matter of the related applications are
hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

20 FIELD OF THE INVENTION

25 The present invention pertains to wireless communication
messaging (as opposed to voice wireless communication). More
particularly, the present invention relates to providing
messages including pictures (and possibly accompanying text)
from one mobile terminal to another via for example the so-
called Short Message Service.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1 In recent years, data services have become popular for
mobile communications systems, including the very popular so-
called short messaging service (SMS), which makes use of
5 underutilized bandwidth of signaling channels to allow short
text messages. With SMS, users are able to exchange
alphanumeric messages (up to 160 characters in length), and the
messages are delivered within seconds of their being
transmitted. Of course the networks traversed in providing the
10 messages from one user to another must all be digital cellular
networks. Although SMS was originally conceived as a paging
mechanism for notifying users of the arrival of voicemail, it is
now used primarily as a messaging service. A new use for SMS is
a picture messaging application for cellular telephones that is
15 presently being offered by the assignee hereof for allowing
users to create and download picture messages into his or her
proprietary mobile telephone (e.g., Nokia 3210 GSM) and send
them to another, compatible proprietary telephone (another Nokia
3210 or a Nokia 8210 or Nokia 8850). With a likewise
20 proprietary messaging platform (e.g., Nokia Artus Messaging
Platform), operators are able to enhance usage of SMS for their
subscribers. Such a simple graphic message service provides a
black-and-white picture, for instance 72 x 28 pixels, along with
a short greeting displayed below the picture. A maximum size of
25 the greeting is specified, for example 120 characters.

What is needed is a way to create, store and edit simple
clip-art type pictures for use in messages sent via wireless
communication, using for example SMS. Ideally, a mobile phone
would be able to store a collection of such clip-art pictures,
30 and a user would be able to pick one or more clip-art pictures
from the collection to include in a message. Even more